

Sceptre, the Sword of State, the Mace, the Crozier and the Marshal's baton—which to the uninstructed might seem more obviously to descend from the rod with which the original marshal or "stall-thegn" controlled the king's horses and possibly the king's men. And in connecting phallic symbols with fatherhood he does not deal with the objection that the primitive mind which invented this symbolism probably did not understand the act of generation. But then, Dr. Brend remarks somewhat cryptically, "native races are not the same as primitive people." Examples need not be multiplied to show that this book, though it contains many facts and ideas that may be new and stimulating to the general reader, is not sufficiently logical and accurate to be taken seriously as a learned work. As it may be that the present reviewer has been prejudiced thereby, it is fair to add that Dr. Brend is opposed to what he styles "the pseudo-science of eugenics" or, more briefly, "eugenic poppycock," which he appears to imagine supports the present social order. He states that there are no statistics which show an increase of mental deficiency, and that the view that it is inherited is groundless.

CECIL BINNEY.

BIOGRAPHY

Marrot, H. V. *Life and Letters of John Galsworthy*. London, 1935. William Heinemann Ltd.

MR. MARROT, like Mr. Garvin in his *Life of Joseph Chamberlain*,* shows an interest in the ancestry of his subject—and this is an interest which Galsworthy himself fully shared. The founder of the Galsworthy fortunes, John, the grandfather of the writer, was son of a yeoman of Plympton, in Devon. He became a successful merchant and ship-owner in that part of the world, his son, the second John, an equally successful solicitor in London. Little seems to be known of either the mother or the wife of the first John Galsworthy; of the wife of the second John there is a detailed account in this volume,

with a description of her ancestry, from the pen of her famous son.

The Bartleet family to which she belonged owned a needle-making business at Redditch, in Worcestershire, and her grandfather William was an able man of affairs; but his son Charles, a most amiable individual, had little heart for the business and none of the next generation showed commercial aptitude. Intermarriages with families of some landed position may have partly occasioned this result, but imaginative qualities began to take the place of the practical, and though Galsworthy's mother is herself described as essentially matter of fact, there can be little doubt that with good looks derived from both sides, as evidenced by the portraits in this volume, the writer owed his imagination to the maternal side, his industry to the paternal. To the very happy combination of these qualities the greatness of John Galsworthy was due, but in his case the strongly inherited urge to industry was the more important seeing that he was one of the very few successful writers to whom the earning of daily bread was at no time a necessity. Contrast in this respect the positions in early life of his famous contemporaries, Bernard Shaw, H. G. Wells and Arnold Bennett.

From Mr. Marrot's *Life* we learn the actual facts concerning some of John Galsworthy's ancestors, but in detail we may know a few of them even better in *The Forsyte Saga*, his father, for example, as "Old Jolyon," his maternal grandfather as "Superior Dosset."

In Galsworthy's case, as in so many others, we cannot trace the direct appearance of his special talents in previous generations, but as in almost all instances of famous men we can trace varied ability. Like Joseph Chamberlain he was of wholly English descent and, again like Chamberlain, of the very soundest English stock. In many respects the two men were curiously different. Though both Radicals in a sense, their characters were poles apart, but in the general circumstances of their ancestry the man of action and the man of thought were singularly alike.

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It is a matter for congratulation that the subject of heredity so clearly makes an appeal. biographies of two such men should have been undertaken by writers to whom the

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DETAILS OF ADDRESSES DELIVERED BY LECTURERS OF THE EUGENICS SOCIETY JUNE—AUGUST 1936

Date.	Speaker.	Society or Organization.	Subject.	Number Present.	Supporting Resolution.
June 4th.	Mrs. Crichton.	St. Athanasius C.E. School, Liverpool.	Heredity—Our Responsibility as Citizens.	300	—
June 4th.	Miss Pocock.	Westminster Young People's Adult School.	Heredity—Our Responsibility as Citizens.	20	—
June 7th.	Mrs. Crichton.	Bootle Free Church, Liverpool.	Heredity.	57	—
June 10th.	Miss Pocock.	Nutfield Women's Institute.	Heredity—Healthy and Unhealthy Families.	25	—
June 11th-13th.	Mrs. Tamplin.	Richmond Horse Show.			
June 25th.	Miss Pocock.	Bridport and Beaminster Group of Women's Institutes, Bridport.	Heredity.	92	—
July 2nd-4th.	Mrs. Tamplin.	Aldershot Command Military Horse Show.			
July 3rd.	Mrs. Crichton. Mrs. Tamplin.	Teesside Area Federation of Townswomen's Guilds, Saltburn.	Heredity.	150	—
July 6th-11th.	Miss Pocock. Mrs. Tamplin.	Royal Sanitary Institute's Congress and Health Exhibition, Southport.	—	5,202	—